



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/50
27 August 1999

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on the Promotion and
Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 10

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Letter dated 24 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of
Kuwait to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the
Chairman of the fifty-first session of the Sub-Commission

In reference to the practice of the right of reply under agenda item 10 by the delegation of the Republic of Iraq at the 26th meeting on 23 August 1999, I would like to voice the objection of the delegation of the State of Kuwait to the text presented by the Iraqi delegate, especially the abuse of this right whose purpose is to reply to a statement made by an NGO, [in this case] Interfaith International.

Recalling your inaugural statement requesting that government statements should avoid attacking other countries, the delegation of the State of Kuwait abstained from addressing the Commission under this item.

In regard to the question of Iraqi exports of children's child-care products, we reconfirm that the Kuwaiti coastguard arrested a wooden boat named Naurani inside Kuwaiti territorial waters on 11 August 1999. The boat was coming from Iraq and flying the United Arab Emirates flag.

The Government of the State of Kuwait has submitted two letters to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the Security Council on this incident* which demonstrates beyond any doubt that the Iraqi regime is abusing the oil-for-food programme.

* Issued as document S/1999/885.

The captain of the arrested boat confessed that he had previously committed six such violations.

In reference to the Iraqi statement challenging the State of Kuwait to invite the international media to verify this affair, we would like to emphasize that it is a common practice in Kuwait to provide transparency on such matters and Kuwait has exposed the shipment to the cameras of the international press.

Therefore, the State of Kuwait considers the Iraqi statement as baseless and rejects the fabrication concerning Kuwait. And we request that this letter be considered as an official document of the fifty-first session of the Sub-Commission.

(Signed): Dharar A.R. RAZZOOQI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative